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Paragraph [0021] should be amended as follows:

[0021] The analysis of ADNc sequences reveals a peptide sequence corresponding exactly to the COOH-terminal end of the isolated PSAs ~~(see Figure 1 : schematic representation of the COOH terminal end of PSAs identified by the monoclonal antibody F5)~~.

Paragraph [0022] should be amended as follows:

[0022] Using a recombinant protein coding for the carboxyterminal part of the PSAs, it has been shown that patients or dogs which have contracted leishmaniasis are incapable of producing antibodies against the epitopes carried by the recombinant protein ~~(see Figure 2 : Analysis of the humoral response of patients and dogs naturally infected with regard to the recombinant protein 6 (His)-COOH-PSA)~~, while they produce antibodies against native ES antigens, thus against other epitopes present on the native PSAs. On the contrary, dogs immunized with AESs of promastigotes of *Leishmania infantum*, and protected against visceral leishmaniasis, have antibodies of the isotype IgG2 specific to the carboxyterminal part ~~(see Figure 3 : Analysis of the humoral response of dogs immunized by the AESs of promastigotes of *Leishmania infantum* relative to the recombinant protein 6 (His)-COOH-PSA)~~.

Paragraph [0031] should be amended as follows:

[0031] A viability test with ~~Trypan® Blue~~ TRYPAN BLUE (TM) at 0.4% in PBS and a Thomas cell counting must be done in order to resuspend the parasites in sterile PBS so that they are at 10^6/ml.

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Paragraph [0040] should be amended as follows:

[0040] One aliquot of 10 ul for each test is then taken immediately after contact in order to perform a viability test with ~~Trypan® Blue~~ TRYPAN BLUE (TM) and a Thomas cell counting, the surplus serving for the cultivation from which a counting is done daily.

Paragraph [0061] should be amended as follows:

[0061] Determined by a test with ~~Trypan® Blue~~ TRYPAN BLUE (TM), the viability of the promastigotes was 100% before contact with the serum. After 30 min. of contact, the viability with the healthy serum was always 100% at all dilutions, while with the serum immunized with ESP, it was only more than 50% with the pure serum, 73% with the serum diluted to ½, 92% and 94% with respectively the serum diluted to ¼ and 1/8 ~~(see Figure 4 : Kinetics of proliferation of promastigotes after 30 minutes of contact with different dilutions of serums (Pure (A); ½ (B) ; ¼ (C) ; 1/8 (D)) in the healthy dog (S) Muma and immunized with the ESP(I) Minon)~~.

Paragraph [0066] should be amended as follows:

[0066] • The following study was done on cultures in MAA. 20 for differentiation into amastigotes, from promastigotes treated with a serum before challenge of a healthy dog or a dog immunized 4 times with the ESP ~~(see Figure 5 : Kinetics of proliferation of amastigotes after 30 minutes of contact with different dilutions of serums (Pure (A); ½ (B) ; ¼ (C) ; 1/8 (D)) of the healthy dog (S) Muma and the dog immunized with ESP(I) Minon)~~.

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